



The Joy of Christmas — Captured as Never Before!

The Twelve Days of Christmas

*For the Rochester Philatelic Association's
Zoom Meeting, December 10, 2020*

by Tom Fortunato

I'm sure you've heard the tune, but you may have never seen the music before! It was first published in 1909 by Novello & Company, attributed to Frederic William Austin of England based on an old folk melody.

1. On the First day of Christ - mas my true love sent to me a Par - tridge in a Pear Tree.

2. On the Se- cond day of Christ- mas my true love sent to me Two Tur- tle Doves and a Par - tridge in a Pear Tree.

3. On the Third day of Christmas my true love sent to me Three French Hens, Two Turtle Doves and a Partridge in a Pear Tree.

4. Fourth Four Calling birds,

5. On the Fifth day of Christ - mas my true love sent to me, Five Gold Rings, Four Call- ing birds, Three French Hens, Two Tur - tle Doves and a Par - tridge in a Pear Tree.

6. On the Sixth day of Christ- mas my true love sent to me Six Geese a - lay - ing, Five Gold

7. Seventh Seven Swans a - swim- ming,

8. Eighth Eight Maids a - milk - ing,


9. Ninth Nine La - dies danc - ing,

10. Tenth Ten Lords a - leap - ing,

11. E - le- venth E- le- ven Pi - pers pi - ping,

12. Twelfth Twelve Drum- mers drum- ming,

Rings, Four Call- ing birds, Three French Hens, Two Tur- tle Doves and a Par - tridge in a Pear Tree.



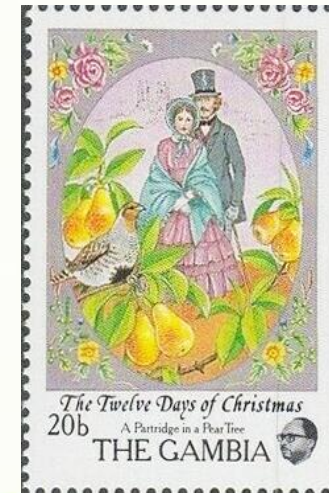
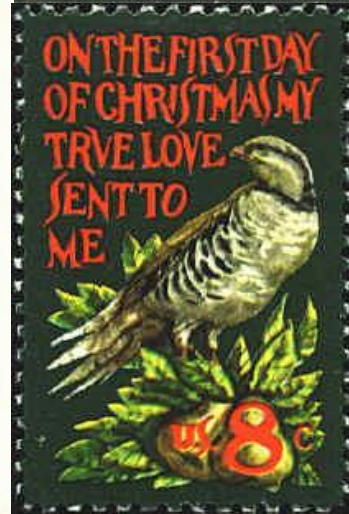
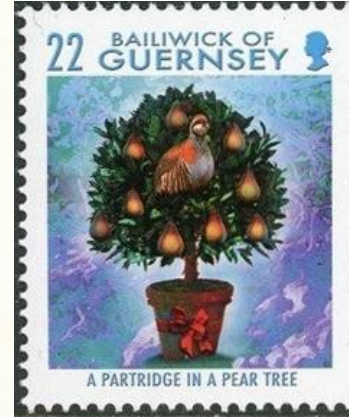
Here are the supposed meanings behind each verse:

- A Partridge in a Pear Tree - Jesus Christ
- Two Turtle Doves - The Old and New Testament
- Three French Hens - The virtues of Faith, Hope, and Charity
- Four Calling Birds - The four gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John Five Golden Rings - The first five books of the Old Testament (The Tanach)
- Six Geese-a-Laying - The six days of creation before God's rest on the seventh day
- Seven Swans-a-Swimming - The seven gifts of the Holy Spirit: wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord
- Eight Maids-a-Milking - The eight Beatitudes
- Nine Ladies Dancing - The nine fruits of the Holy Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and temperance.
- Ten Lords-a-Leaping - The Ten Commandments
- Eleven Pipers Piping - The Eleven Faithful Disciples (minus Judas, who betrayed Jesus)
- Twelve Drummers Drumming - The Twelve points of belief in the Apostles Creed

The first day of Christmas,
My true love sent to me
A partridge in a pear tree.



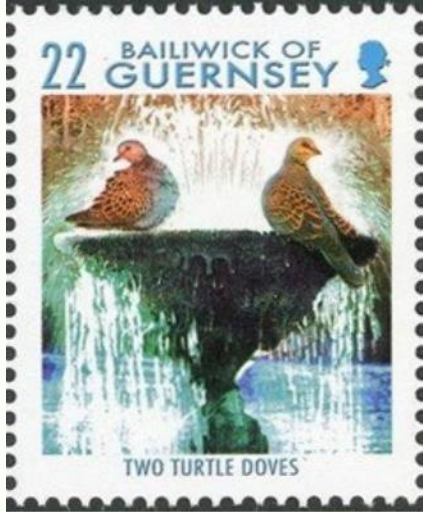
The First Day of Christmas



The second day of Christmas,
My true love sent to me
Two turtle doves . . .



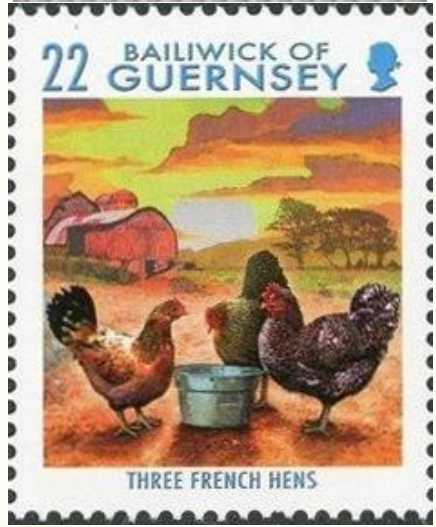
The Second Day of Christmas



The third day of Christmas,
My true love sent to me
Three French hens . . .



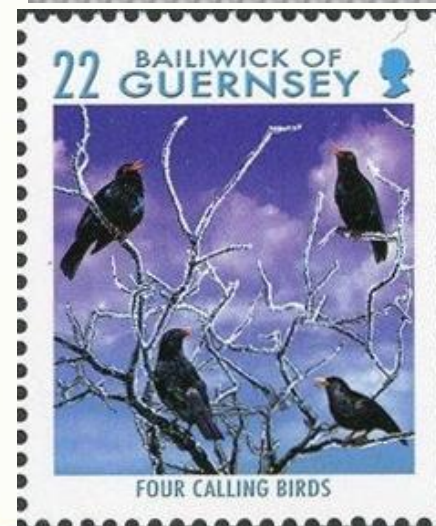
The Third Day of Christmas



The fourth day of Christmas,
My true love sent to me
Four calling birds . . .



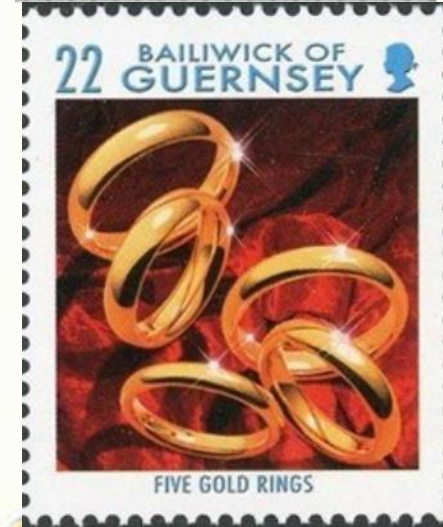
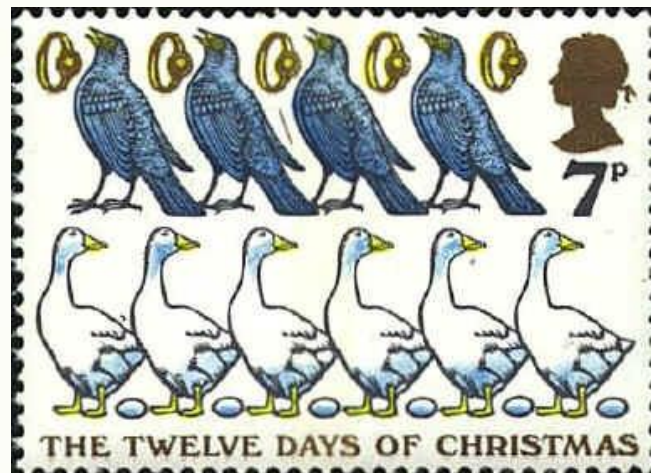
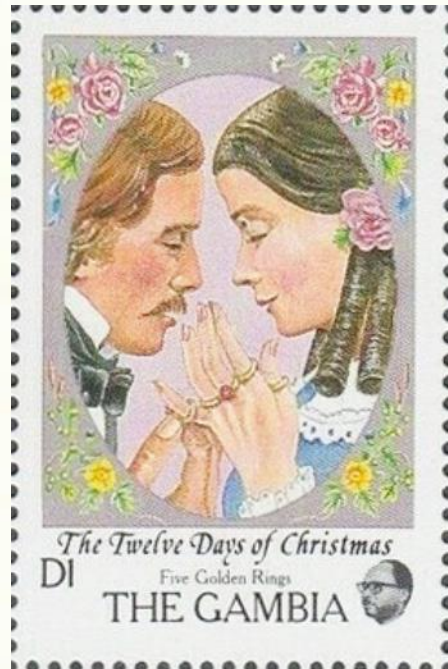
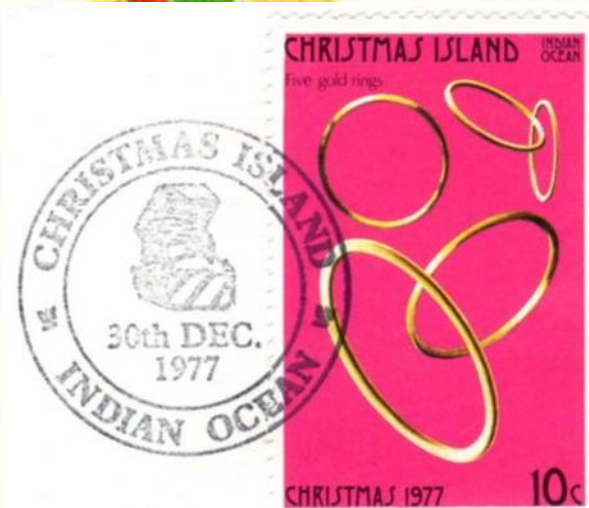
The Fourth Day of Christmas



The fifth day of Christmas,
My true love sent to me
Five golden rings . . .



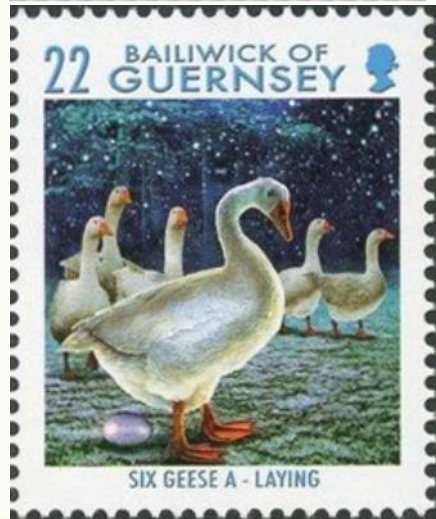
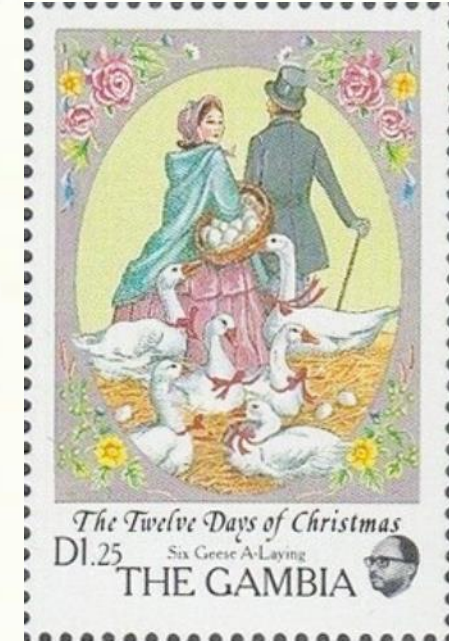
The Fifth Day of Christmas



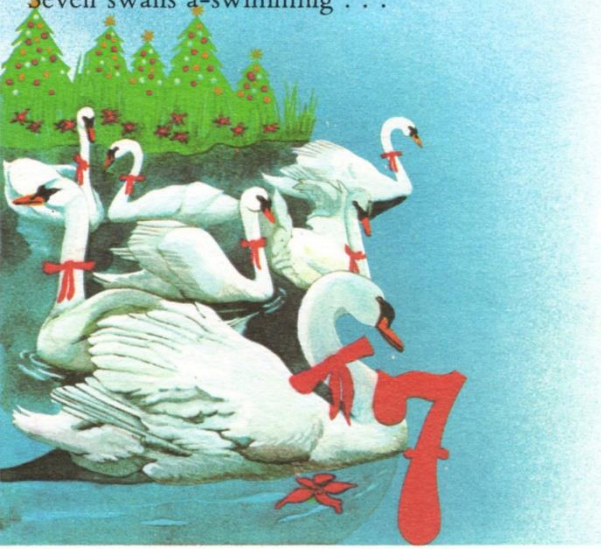
The sixth day of Christmas,
My true love sent to me
Six geese a-laying . . .



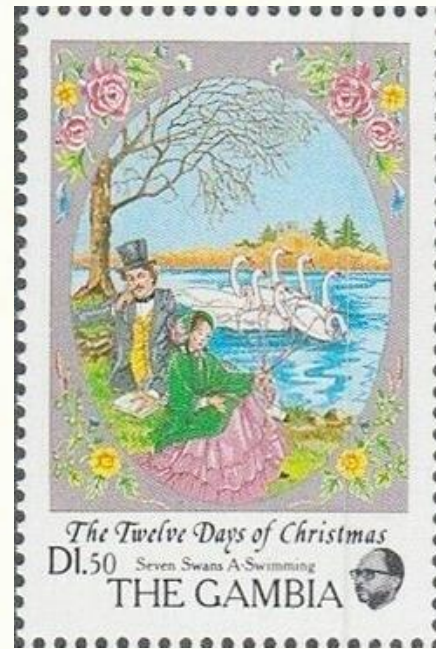
The Sixth Day of Christmas



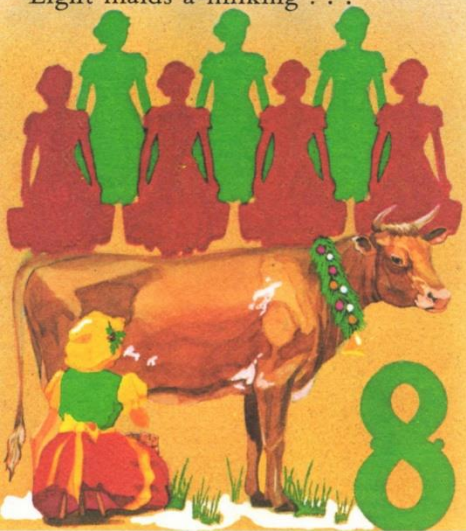
The seventh day of Christmas,
My true love sent to me
Seven swans a-swimming . . .



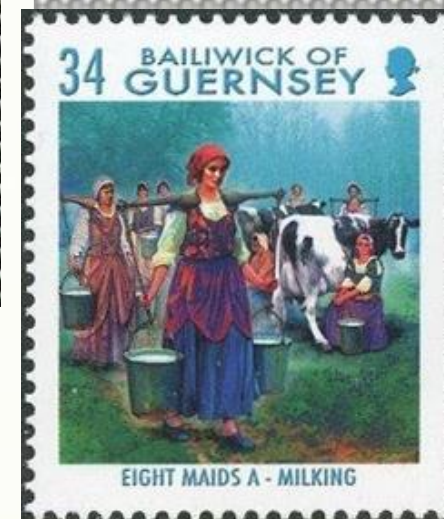
The Seventh Day of Christmas



The eighth day of Christmas,
My true love sent to me
Eight maids a-milking . . .



The Eighth Day of Christmas



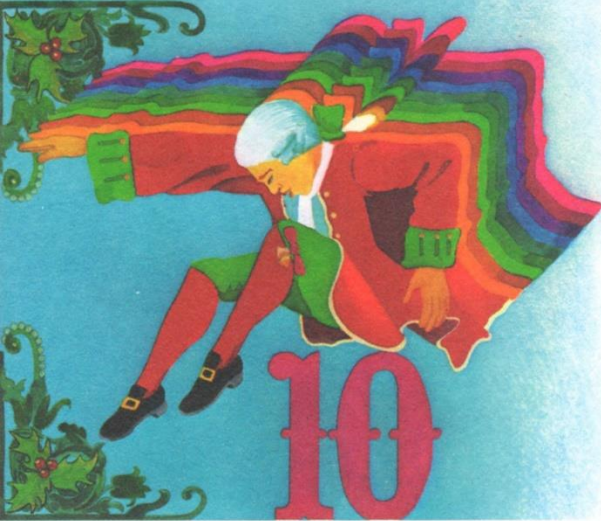
The ninth day of Christmas,
My true love sent to me
Nine ladies dancing . . .



The Ninth Day of Christmas



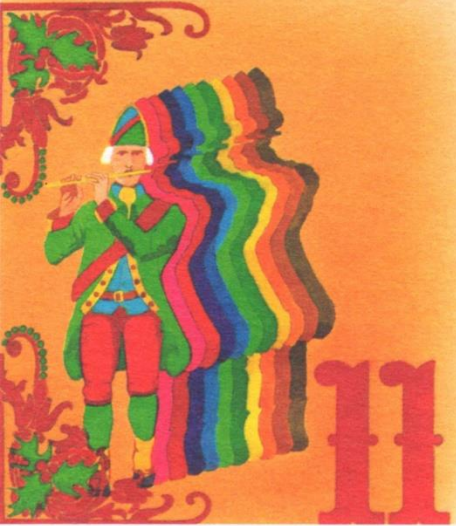
The tenth day of Christmas,
My true love sent to me
Ten lords a-leaping . . .



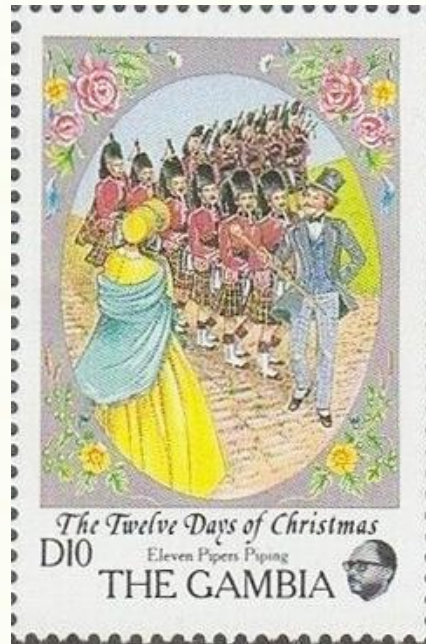
The Tenth Day of Christmas



The eleventh day of Christmas,
My true love sent to me
Eleven pipers piping . . .



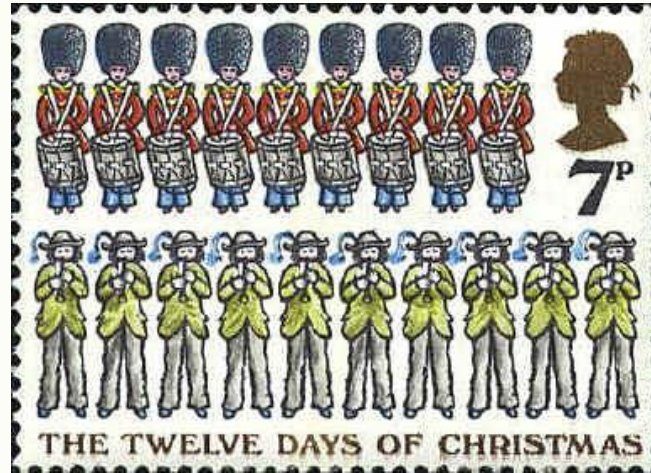
The Eleventh Day of Christmas

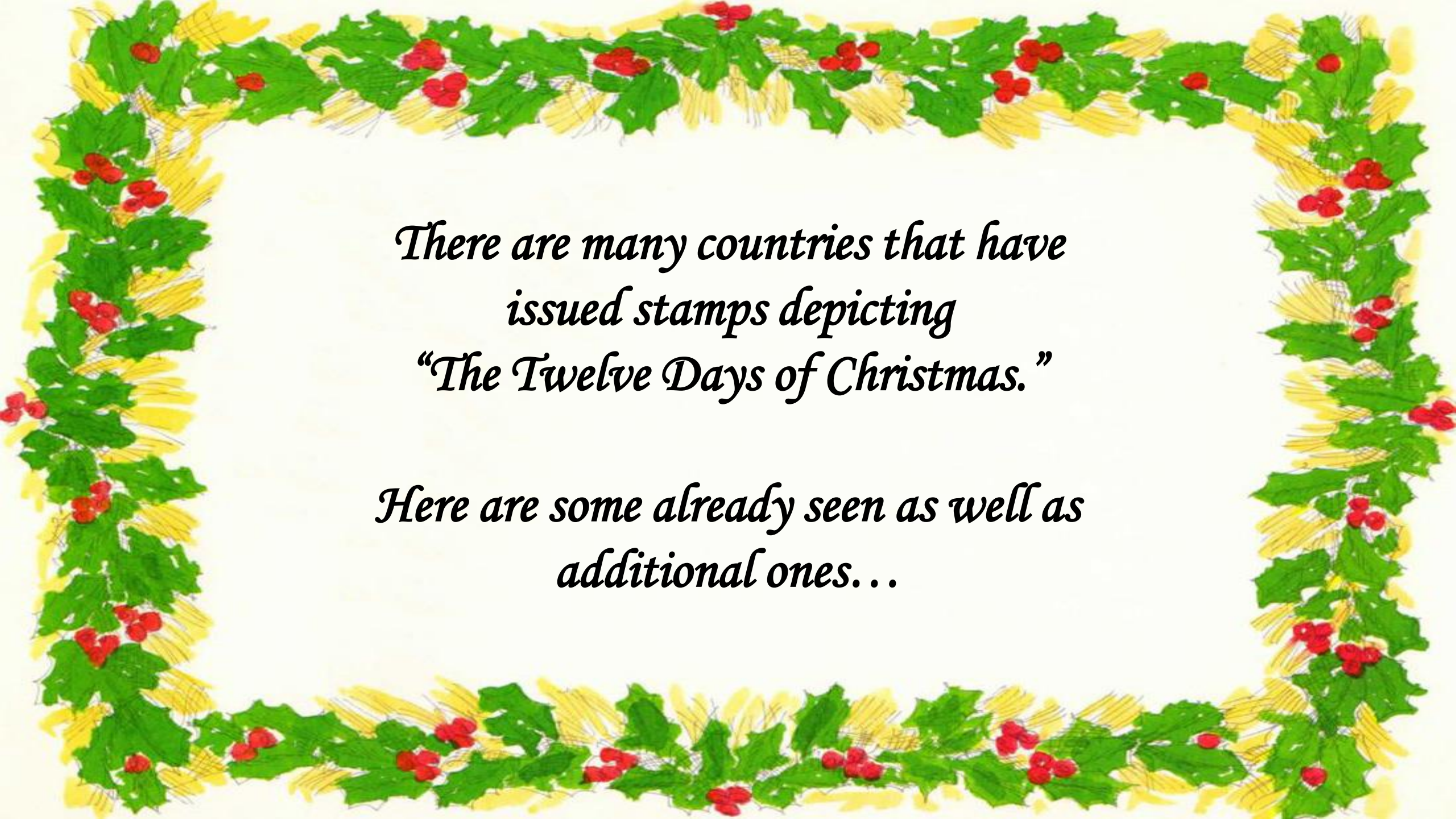


The twelfth day of Christmas,
My true love sent to me
Twelve drummers drumming . . .



The Twelfth Day of Christmas

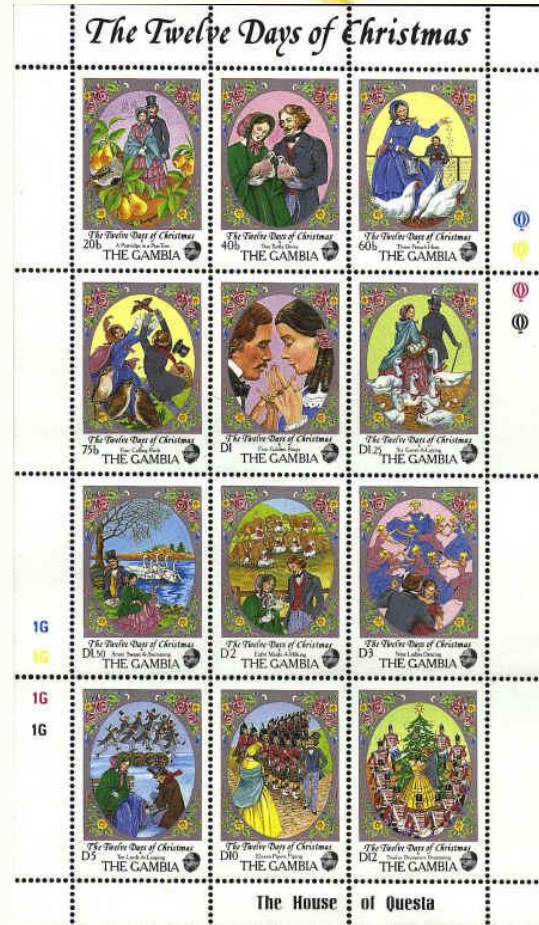


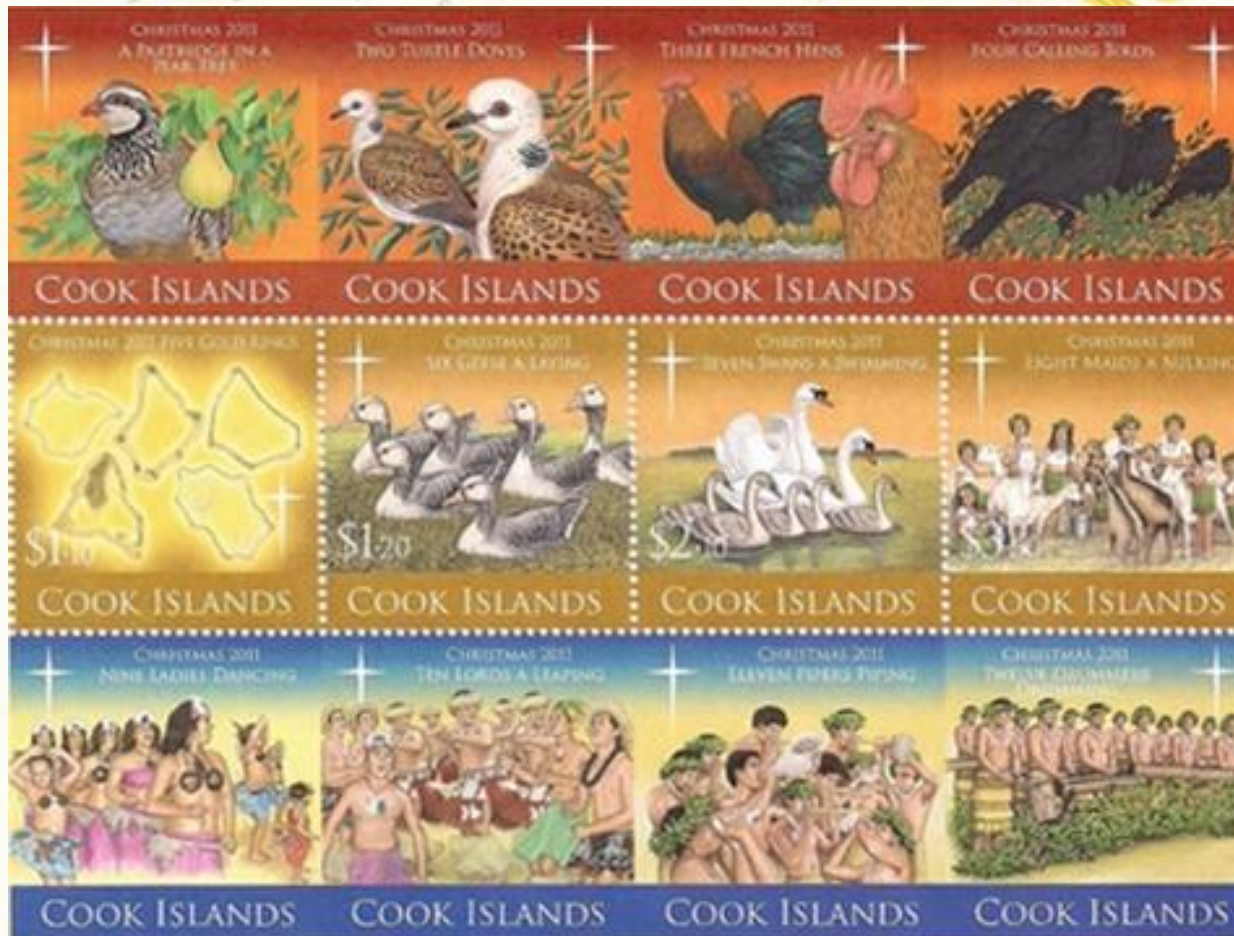


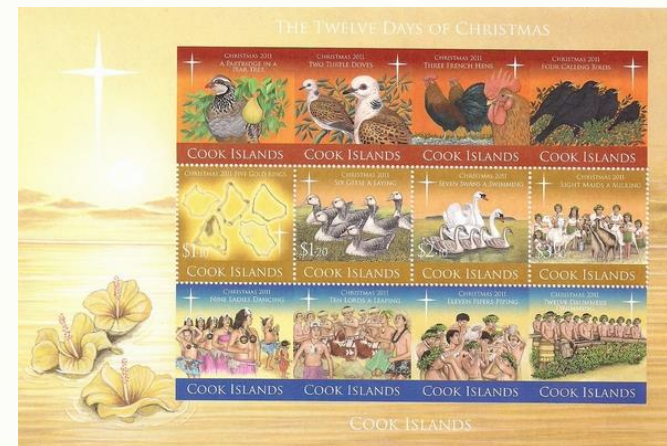
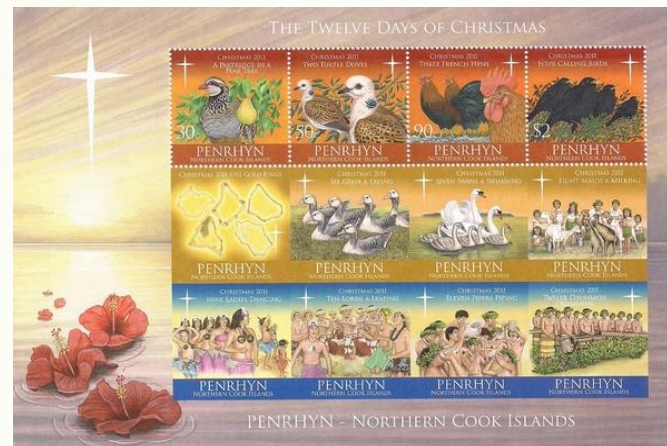
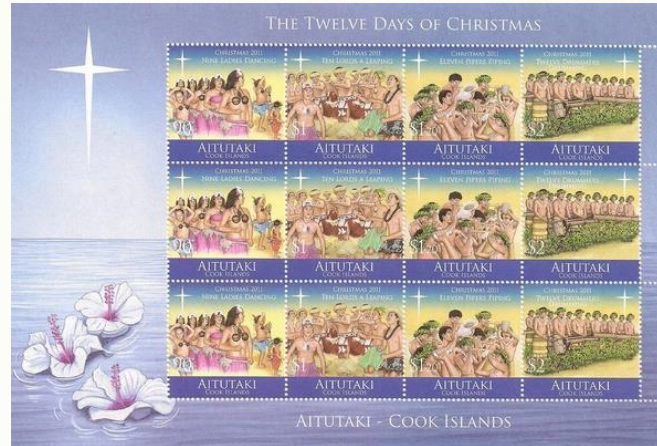
*There are many countries that have
issued stamps depicting
“The Twelve Days of Christmas.”*

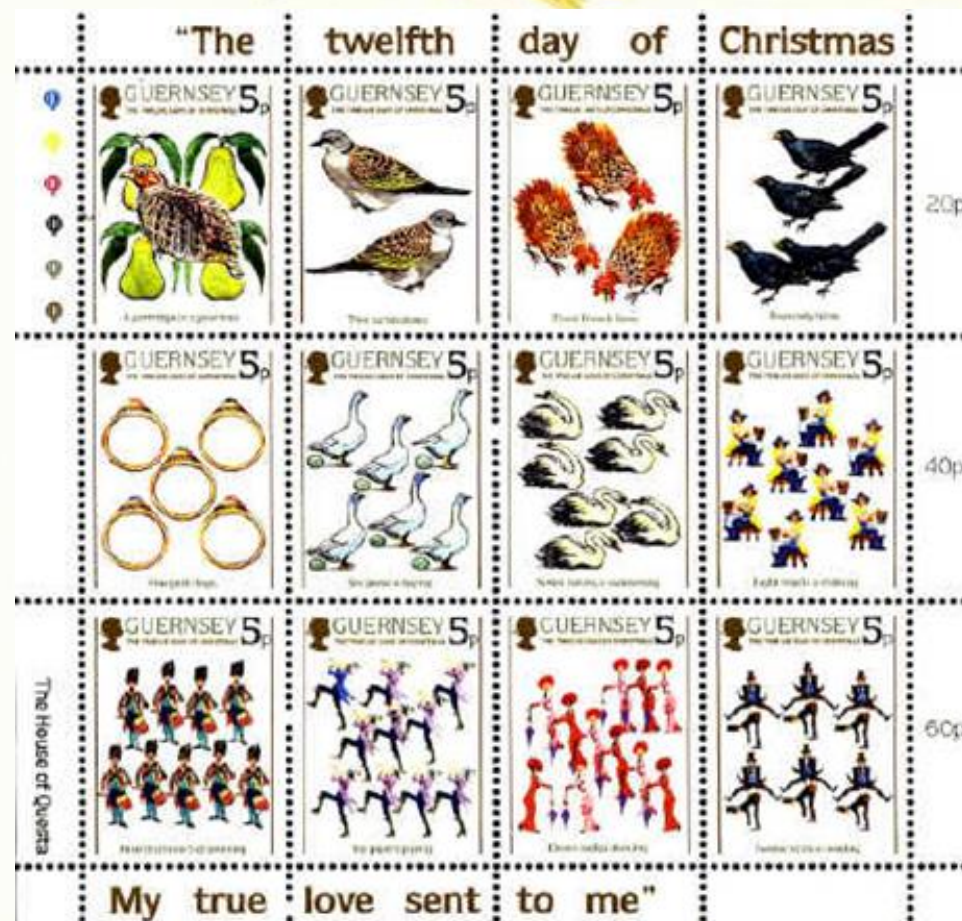
*Here are some already seen as well as
additional ones...*

<p>CHRISTMAS ISLAND 1997 Christmas Island 10c</p>	<p>CHRISTMAS ISLAND 1997 The birds alone 10c</p>	<p>CHRISTMAS ISLAND 1997 From the sea 10c</p>	<p>CHRISTMAS ISLAND 1997 Christmas Island 10c</p>
<p>CHRISTMAS ISLAND 1997 10c</p>	<p>CHRISTMAS ISLAND 1997 The peace is here 10c</p>	<p>CHRISTMAS ISLAND 1997 10c</p>	<p>CHRISTMAS ISLAND 1997 Christmas Island 10c</p>
<p>CHRISTMAS ISLAND 1997 The birds alone 10c</p>	<p>CHRISTMAS ISLAND 1997 The birds alone 10c</p>	<p>CHRISTMAS ISLAND 1997 The birds alone 10c</p>	<p>CHRISTMAS ISLAND 1997 The birds alone 10c</p>















*Happy Holidays
and
Happy New Year!*

